



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the  
District of Nebraska  
**Deborah R. Gilg**

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February 11, 2010

United States Attorney Deborah Gilg and the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:**

United States District Court Judge Laurie Smith Camp sentenced Barton E. Langenberg to a two year sentence of probation with the condition that he serve six months of home confinement for his conviction for Structuring Currency Transactions to Avoid Currency Reporting Requirements. As a result of the offense, Barton E. Langenberg was also ordered to forfeit to the United States any and all interest he has in \$15,494.18, as property involved in the offense. Additionally, as part of his probationary sentence, Langenberg is to cooperate with the IRS in a civil examination of his 2006, 2007 and 2008 tax returns in order to resolve any additional tax liability.

Langenberg, while owner of the American Auto Exchange, a used car business with locations in Kearney, Lexington and Grand Island, Nebraska, during the period of 1999 through 2008, structured currency deposits into his business banking accounts at Farmers and Merchants Bank and Platte Valley State Bank to avoid the filing of Cash Transaction Reports (CTR's). Structuring is a series of cash deposits and/or withdrawals made to avoid the requirement of the bank to file Cash Transaction Reports for any cash deposit or cash withdrawal that exceeds \$10,000. During an eight-year period, Langenberg structured approximately \$800,000 of deposits, usually making deposits between \$9,500 and \$9,900, to avoid the \$10,000 filing threshold. IRS Criminal Investigation Special Agent in Charge Toni Weirauch said, "Data retrieved from Currency Transaction Reports provides a paper trail or road map for an IRS investigation and lays the framework for charges stemming from currency transactions."

**Name of Defendant:** Barton E. Langenberg

**AKA:**

**Age:** 38

**City of residence:** Kearney, Nebraska

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is

**presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty):** Count I - Structuring Currency Transactions to Avoid Currency Reporting requirements, in violation of Title 31, United States Code, Sections 5324 (a)(3) and 5324 (d)(1), and Title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 103.11 (gg). The maximum statutory penalty is 5 years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and 3 years of supervised release. Count II - Forfeiture, in violation of Title 31, United States Code, Section 5317.

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** Kearney, Nebraska

**Location of Arrest:**

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:** \$15,494.18

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:** N/A

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** August 16 - August 19, 1999

**Federal Arrest Date:**

**Date Complaint Issued:** N/A

**Indictment Returned Date:** May 21, 2009 - Indictment  
July 22, 2009 - Superseding Indictment  
November 23, 2009 - Information

**Initial Appearance Date:** June 12, 2009 - Indictment  
August 20, 2009 - Superseding Indictment  
November 23, 2009 - Information

**Plea or Trial and Date(s):** November 23, 2009

**Sentencing Date:** February 11, 2010

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:** N/A

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:** F.A. Gossett

**Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:**

**Assigned District Court Judge:** Laurie Smith Camp

**Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** RXM